



Faith Alive

www.faithabq.org

February 7, 2007

Bruce Wilder, Senior Pastor ♦ Mike Easton, Pastor ♦ David Breidenbach, Pastor
Sunday Worship Services ♦ 8:00 am ♦ 9:30 am ♦ 11:00 am

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

God has blessed our congregation in so many different ways. I want to share just a few of them with you:



- ✘ Amber Webb is our new Director of Operations and Katarina Nagy is the new Administrative Assistant to the Senior Pastor. These two sisters in Christ "come early" and "stay late" because they care deeply for our congregation's life and mission. Please greet them if you haven't already and remember them in your prayers.
- ✘ The First Annual Couples Retreat at Glorieta was truly a mountain-top experience. Kirsten and I were blessed by the worship, the prayers, the fellowship, and the authenticity of the other couples who participated with us. Here's what one of them had to say: "Thank you both for the couples retreat experience. While we have a strong marriage, there's always room for improvement. As we try to put into practice some of the things we learned this weekend, we hope they will bring us closer together and strengthen our walk with the Lord. For us, the sessions on agape love and prayer were most meaningful. While neither of us had expressed a desire to pray together, after listening to your testimony we look forward to using this as a technique to be more transparent with each other."
- ✘ Many more Faith members are now realizing the importance of regular and faithful giving as a mark of authentic Christian discipleship. People who have never pledged before have done so. Individuals and families who never tithed before intend to do so for the first time. Remember, God loves a cheerful giver! How's your giving?
- ✘ Pat Orell, Kris Stichman, Randy Riddle, Al Lanting and Larry Wilson were elected as Vice President and Councilors in January. Please thank these fellow members for their willingness to serve the Lord of the church in these important positions. In order for any congregation to truly be a community in mission, its leaders must have the heart of a servant. God has provided this for Faith in these five leaders.
- ✘ We continue to be blessed with many first time and repeat visitors each and every week. The Lord is working through us in leading others to Christ and helping them find a home church with us. Please be sure to introduce yourself to someone you don't already know when you worship each week!

The Lord bless and keep you strong in faith, hope, love...and generous stewardship!

Love in Christ,

Bruce Wilder
Senior Pastor

Thank You

☐ Dear Members of Faith:

Thank you on behalf of **Greater Albuquerque Habitat for Humanity** for your contribution of \$1,000. Your generosity and support are both very much appreciated. The security, stability and pure joy that homeownership gives to a low-income family are priceless gifts! Thank you for your wonderful blessing. A house built without the Lord is built in vain. Please keep us in prayer.

God Bless,

Kevin Cronk, Chief Operations Officer

☐ Dear Faith Lutheran Staff:

Thank you so much for such a wonderful memorial service for Pat Thorson. She would have loved every moment. Ronda, the music selections were perfect, she loved those songs; thanks for your efforts. Jesse, thank you for your expertise in presenting our video montage and your overall efforts; well done. The church was clean and very beautiful. We were very pleased with the programs, the service and church setup. You made everything special.

Thanks again,

Harold, Kurt, Janet, Ahren & Alex Thorson

Member Updates

Baptism:

- ✠ Chevelle Nicky Hernandez, daughter of Cindee and Nicholas, was baptized on January 14.
- ✠ Kaitlin Grace Ellis, daughter of Rici and Gary, was baptized on January 21.

Death:

- ✠ Marlys M. Exon passed away on January 11.
- ✠ Patricia A. Thorson passed away on January 23.

Piano Update!

In addition to those listed in the last issue of *Faith Alive*, we also wish to offer a heartfelt **'Thank you'** to Ruth Ronan. We unintentionally left out her name in the list of donors for our new piano.



We have selected a first class piano that should be delivered within the next few weeks. Again, all the musicians who utilize the piano in the choir room thank our generous donors!

Attendance	8:00	9:30	11:00	Total
Sunday, January 21	124	308	272	704
Sunday School, January 21				122
Wednesday Night Ministries, January 24				150
Sunday, January 28	122	389	211	722
Sunday School, January 28				121
Wednesday Night Ministries, Jan. 31 (no H2H)				91



February 21, 2007

Worship Services at

Noon and 7:00 pm



Bread of Faith Pantry

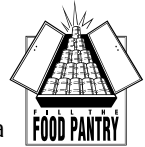


On March 3, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm, Linda Dudley and Vicki Hedin, our Kitchen Coordinators, will be making soup for the Bread of Faith Pantry. If you are interested in helping, please call the church office

or sign up at the Information Center.

Join us for some fun, laughter and a lite lunch.

This supply of soups, as well as casseroles, canned goods, and other staples, are available to be given to or delivered to Faith members with a temporary need, such as the arrival of a new baby, recuperation during an illness or hospitalization, or other short-term needs. Please contact Vicki or Linda through the church office to make arrangements for us to help you.



New Kitchen Refrigerator



The new refrigerator has been installed and it is such an asset to the kitchen staff.

Both Linda and Vicki are so appreciative to the following people for their donations:

Robert and Lois Stueber, Jackie Blackburn, Henry Schneider, and Ross and Linda Dudley, as well as several anonymous donors. Thank you!

Donate Blood

Mark Sunday, **February 25**, on your calendar to donate at the Bloodmobile in our parking lot.

If you are 17 or older, weigh at least 110 pounds, have not donated in the past 8 weeks (16 weeks for double red cell donors), are healthy and are not currently taking antibiotics, we need your blood! Most donors find it a painless and heartwarming experience. Since the human body averages 10-12 pints of blood, it's easy to spare some.

Make your appointment now by entering on the web site at www.bloodhero.com. When you give blood, ask a United Blood Services technician if you are eligible for the shorter interview.

Will you be a hero for our first blood drive for 2007!

Columbarium

is the name given to a vault which contains a series of niches, each of which holds one or two urns of ashes. For hundreds of years, Christians have buried their loved ones on church grounds. Such action gives testimony to our faith in the God who created us and loves us, and to whom each of us returns at death.

The Columbarium Committee has worked nearly two years on this project for Faith Lutheran.

The Church Council approved the Committee's recommendation for an outdoor columbarium. It will be placed north of the Sanctuary in an area sheltered

from the street by tall shrubs. The chosen vault is a round moveable structure, approximately five feet high and six and a half feet in diameter, which houses 80 niches. The vault is made of reddish brown granite that goes well with the church's stucco and the grass/paving stone area where it is to be placed. Each niche is faced with granite that will be engraved with the name(s) and the date of birth and death of the person(s) whose remains are enclosed in the niche.



The Committee must now educate the congregation as to how the columbarium will be managed and to determine those people who are interested in purchasing one or more niches. In order for the project to proceed, a minimum of 40 niches must be sold in advance. This will provide the funds needed to purchase the vault and to prepare the designated space.

Prior to the arrival and placement of the columbarium, the niches will be sold for \$1,000 each but thereafter will sell for \$1,200 each. This pricing

plan is an incentive for purchasing niches in advance so the project can proceed. Money will be set aside for perpetual care of the columbarium, and in this regard it is intended to

be revenue-neutral to the church. No niches will actually be sold until at least 40 or more have been reserved and the Church Council has given it's final approval.

Members of the Columbarium Committee will be available at a table in the Centrum for the next three Sundays (February 11, 18 and 25) to provide information and to answer questions. Please stop by and reserve a niche for yourself and/or a family member.

Adult Ministry

Men's Breakfast

Our next regular Men's Breakfast will be Saturday, **February 10**. Our speaker will be Melody Wattenbarger, Executive Director and CEO of the Roadrunner Food Bank. Sign up in the Library. Contact Dwayne Knirk at 856-0261 for details.



Women's Brunch

Because the Women's Retreat is planned for February 17-18, our next Women's Brunch is Saturday, **March 17**. Watch for details.

Women's Book Club

We invite all women with a passion for reading to join us at 7:00 pm in the Cry Room the third Tuesday of the month. Mark your calendars! Our next book selection for **February 20** is "Looking for Lost Bird" by Yvette Melanson. We're always open to new members. Questions? Please call Nancy Gwyn at 296-3190 (h) or 346-4673 (w).

WOW (Widows of Wisdom)

The WOW ladies will meet for a potluck at Bonnie Hoeberling's home on Thursday, **February 15**, at 5:00 pm. Contact Bonnie (821-1057), LaDonna Adolf (797-0401) or Diane Boade (299-5743) by Sunday, February 11, if you plan to come.

Friday Morning Women's Bible Study



Our study of King David and the Psalms will conclude in February and a new study will begin on **March 2**. Our group is a mixture of ages, opinions, and perspectives while being united in Christ. We are missing YOU and would love to invite

anyone interested to join us as we seek to know God more deeply as we study the people of the Bible.

Please feel free to call, or stop in at 9:30 am on Friday mornings in the Library.

In Christ, Pam Limke (797-7529)

Dinner Out 50+

Our next dinner will be held at the Zea Rotisserie, 4800 Montgomery Blvd NE, on Wednesday, **February 14** (Valentine's Eve) at 6:00 pm. There is limited space, so the first 30 sign-ups only will have a seat!

For more information, please call your hosts Jim & Abbie Wiler (286-8444).

S.A.L.T. (Wednesday Night) ~

6:30-8:00 pm

"Be Careful How You Pray," a study of Jesus' teaching on prayer in his Sermon on the Mount, led by Pr. Mike Easton in the Lecture Hall; textbook cost is \$10.00. Class dates are January 24 through March 21 (except February 21).

Adult Sunday School ~

January 7 thru May 20

It's not too late the join one of the following classes:

8:15 am... "**Who We Really Are**" led by Bill & Lonnie Dennis in Room 12; textbook cost is \$8.00.

9:30 am... "**Master Our Passions**" led by Mark & Lisa Platzbecker in Room 13; no textbook.

9:30 am & 11:00 am... "**The Time Between the Testaments**" led by Pr. Mike Easton in the Lecture Hall; textbook cost is \$18.00.

Note: No classes held on March 25 or April 8.

"Beyond Bridges, An In-depth Look at the Mormons"

This new Sunday School class begins **March 11**. Ross Dudley is presenting this study as a follow-up of the "Bridges" seminar held last November. Some of the topics discussed will be:

- ♦ Are Mormons Christians?
- ♦ What do they believe?
- ♦ What's in the Book of Mormon?
- ♦ What do Mormons believe about the Bible?
- ♦ Why are Mormons so defensive about criticism?
- ♦ How can I witness to my Mormon friends?
- ♦ What should I do about Mormons at my door?

These and other topics will be talked about at both 8:00 am and 9:30 am in Room 9. Sign up in the Centrum and specify which class time you would like to attend. No textbook fee.

Note: No classes held on March 25 or April 8.

These military personnel are family and friends for whom you wish prayers. Please call the church office to add (+) or delete names.

James Beakley
Matt Borst +
Andrew Brabson
John Cawthorne
Tyler Donnell
Chris Donnelly
August Dudley
Ben Dufay

Ryan Fenn
Linda Field
Tabitha Golden
Jonathan Hamilton
James Hansen
Chris Hinnerichs
Gary Hogan +
Michael Holtzclaw

Chris Johnson +
Curtis Johnson +
Chap. Rick Koch
Adam Lawrence
Dennis G. Long
Thomas Nagy +
Mort Packer
Jason Padilla +

Brian Peters
Charles Schneider
Gregg Silva
Jerry Simmons
James Zurzolo

Born Anew

At the H2H (Confirmation) "Your Kingdom Come" Theme Night, the small groups were asked to come up with a definition of "born anew" in relation to God's Kingdom after we read John 3:1-17. Here is what they came up with:

- ✘ "To be reborn spiritually, to believe in Jesus Christ as your living God"
- ✘ "Baptism"
- ✘ "Rebirth, every time the Holy Spirit enters your life, to be born again"
- ✘ "Being born anew means being baptized, having faith and being born in God"
- ✘ "Spiritually reborn, cleansed by the Holy Spirit from earthly wants and desires"
- ✘ "Baptism, the Holy Spirit renews us"
- ✘ "When the Holy Spirit allows us to become a new person, helps us break from sin, become stronger and protect us"
- ✘ "Baptized, born into God's family, start a new and better life, not bound by sin"
- ✘ "To be cleansed by the Holy Spirit and given new life"
- ✘ "To be born a new person in the name of God and into His house"

As you can see, these kids are really learning something when they come every week to Confirmation, and what a great way for us all to be reminded that we were all born anew when we were blessed with the Holy Spirit. Keep watching here for more of what we are learning in H2H (Confirmation).



Mid-School Summer Camp



This summer the mid-school youth will again be traveling to Sky Ranch in Bellvue, CO. This is an amazing week-long

experience in the beautiful mountains of Colorado. The dates we will be going this year are July 8-13, 2007, and the cost will be \$400, with a non-refundable deposit due no later than **April 15**.

If you would like to go or just find out more about it, please call Dawn Selberg at 296-0762 or e-mail her at dselberg@faithabq.org.

Spring Retreat (Middle School)

The Spring retreat is coming soon; don't miss it!!!! This spring the middle school youth will be going on another retreat. The theme will be "Fill it Up" and we will talk about love, forgiveness and sharing. We are going to be at Camp Stoney near Santa Fe again; the dates are March 16-18, 2007 and the cost is \$125.

If your H2H (Confirmation) student has not attended a retreat yet this year, this is the last chance for them to do so.

Please sign up and pay no later than **February 25**. If you have any questions, please call Dawn Selberg 296-0762, or e-mail her at dselberg@faithabq.org.



Retreat

Youth age 17 and over... have you considered donating blood? See page 2 for details.

Children of Faith School

Registration for 2007/2008 School Year

Saturday, February 24, 2007 ~ 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Registration begins for returning families and members of Faith Lutheran Church.

Monday, March 12, 2007

Registration will be open to the Public.

On Saturday, February 24, 2007, registration will begin at 10:00 am. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Numbers will be handed out starting at 10:00 am. Each family is required to have their own number in order to register on February 24. You must be present in order to receive a number. Anyone holding a place for someone will not be allowed to receive a number for a friend(s). Having a number in no way guarantees your child(ren) will be enrolled. The number system is a way in which we can serve people in the order they have arrived. We are hopeful the number process will make registration easier for everyone.

Registration Packets are available in the Children of Faith office.

Address Label